

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/632,276

Examiner

Kianni C. Kaveh

Applicant(s)

CARACCI ET AL.

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/14/05 and 5/19/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7-16,34 and 35.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



- Applicant canceling of claims 3, 5 and 17-29 in the amendment/response submitted on 3/14/05 is acknowledged.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Tucker on May 19, 2005. This examiner's amendment is done, in view of newly found prior art reference (US 20040038386) by the examiner, in order to overcome the teachings of the prior art of the record.

Please cancel claims 1-6 and 30-33

In the 5th line of claim 34, page 5, please delete [1.5] and insert 1.4

Reason for Allowance

Claims 7-16 and 34-35 are allowed for the following reasons:

The instant application is deemed to be directed to a nonobvious improvement over the invention patented in Pat. No. Zesch et al. (US 20040038386).

Claims 7 and 14 are allowed because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious wherein said substrate is a

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thermoplastic material including at least one of a polyvinylidene fluoride, polymethylpentene and blends of polyvinylidene fluoride/polymethylmethacrylate in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim.

Claims 9 and 16 are allowed because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious wherein said substrate is a fluoropolymer including fluoroacrylate in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim. Claim 8 and claim 15, respectively, depend on claims 9 and 16 and therefore they are also allowed.

Claim 10 is allowed because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a waveguide film formed above said substrate, 'wherein said substrate has a bottom surface that receives a light beam which interfaces with a waveguide formed by said diffraction grating', and said substrate is a thermoplastic material with index of refraction ≤ 1.5 in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim. Claims 11-13 depend on claim 10 and therefore they are also allowed.

Claims 34-35 are allowed because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious said substrate which is a fluoropolymer that has an index of refraction ≤ 1.4 in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim. Claims depend on claim and therefore they are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to K. Cyrus Kianni whose telephone number is (571) 272-2417.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font, can be reached at (571) 272-2415.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Plaza 4, 2021 South Clark Place, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



K. Cyrus Kianni
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2883

May 19, 2005